NOTHING BEATS GOING TO A HOT SPRING INN WITH YOUR FRIENDS!

STEAM

STEAM

MAN, THAT WAS A GREAT SOAK!

STEAM

INN BABANGIDA

ANYWAY, ARE YOU SURE YOU BOYS DIDN'T GET EXCITED SEEING ME FRESH FROM THE BATH?

HUH? NAH, WE'RE USED TO SEEING YOU WITHOUT MAKEUP.

THAT'S BOTS FOR YOU!

WELL, I BOUGHT A STUPID NUMBER OF SPINS.

I CAN'T BELIEVE ROBOCO WON A HOT SPRING TRIP AT THE LOCAL SHOPPING CENTER'S NEW YEAR'S RAFFLE.

OH, LOOK!

WHOOPS! WOO HOO! ROBOCO'S SO SEXY IT'S GIVING US BUTTERFLIES!!

YOU DO UNDERSTAND WHO TREATED YOU TO THIS TRIP, RIGHT?

AWE-SOME! LET'S PLAY!

A PING-PONG TABLE!!

Chapter 127: Ping-Pong & Roboco

ME & ROBOCO

By Shuhei Miyazaki

Translation: Paul Starr

Lettering: Jin Chan Yum Wai

HEY!!

YOU SOUND PRETTY FULL OF YOURSELF THERE, BONDO.

WHAT KIND OF A WEIRD NICKNAME IS THAT?

HUH?

BEFORE WE MOVED HERE, THEY CALLED ME "PISTACHIO BONDO."

HEH HEH... ACTUALLY, I'M NOT HALF BAD AT PING-PONG...

UGH !!

?!

CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU PAINT THE LINES, PISTACHIO BONDO!

THEY BELIEVE ME!!

LOOKING FORWARD TO THAT!

CHI-ZURU !!

SH-SHE'S GOOD...!!

HOW ABOUT THIS, THEN?

IT'S NO FUN IF YOU JUST GO ALL OUT AGAINST US.

NOT VERY SPORTING OF YOU TO PLAY THAT WAY AGAINST A GRADE-SCHOOLER!!

IT'S BEEN A WHILE. I FORGOT TO HOLD BACK.

SORRY.

ROBOCO TAIRA

RIGHT-HANDED, SHAKEHAND GRIP

RUBBER: INVERTED

PLAY STYLE: VERSATILE, RELIES ON HER POWERFUL DRIVES

GOTTA HAVE THAT!!

NIPPON

I'LL TREAT EVERYONE HERE TO SUPER-FANCY KIWAMI GELATO.

IF EVEN ONE OF YOU CAN BEAT ME...

CRAP! I CAN'T CONCENTRATE WHEN THE GIRLS LOOK SO CUTE FRESH OUT OF THE BATH!!

WE DON'T WANNA GET SWEATY, SO GOOD LUCK OUT THERE!!

NOT THAT I'M GONNA LOSE, OF COURSE!

FEELING A BIT MORE MOTIVATED, EH?

OKAY, GUYS! WE GOTTA WIN THIS!!

WELP ...

AND I'VE NEVER PLAYED PING-PONG BEFORE...

I ALREADY LOST, SO...

TUG

THE TOURNAMENT WILL CONSIST OF ONE-SET MATCHES. FIRST TO 11 POINTS TAKES THE GAME. IF EVEN ONE GRADE SCHOOLER WINS THEIR MATCH, ALL WILL BE TREATED TO ICE CREAM!

THE ROBOCO VS. GRADE-SCHOOLERS TABLE TENNIS SHOWDOWN WILL NOW COMMENCE!!

THIS GUY ALWAYS JUST SHOWS UP LIKE IT'S PERFECTLY NORMAL...

?!

QUIET! SSH !!

WITH GORILLA'S PHYSICAL PROWESS, EVEN ROBOCO MIGHT BE IN TROUBLE...

GOOD LUCK, GACHIII!

GUESS I'LL GO FIRST THEN, OOK.

EEEK!

BIG BRO!!

GORILLA GACHI

RIGHT-HANDED, PENHOLD GRIP

RUBBER: SHORT PIPS

PLAY STYLE: AGGRESSIVE OFFENCE

THIS MATCH WILL PROBABLY BE DECIDED WITH THE VERY FIRST BALL!

BUT IT HASN'T EVEN STARTED YET!!

GORILLA GACHI TO SERVE! LOVE ALL!

FIRST GAME!

SO IT'S A MIND GAME !!

IF THAT DOESN'T WORK, THIS COULD ALL BE OVER IN A SINGLE POINT.

GORILLA'S STRONGEST PLAY IS A FOREHAND SMASH.

back-hand!

forehand!

TAK!!!

OOK!!

NICE SERVE!

!!

SQUEEK

I'LL SET UP FOR A FOREHAND SMASH ON THE SERVE RETURN...

...AND HIT IT WITH EVERYTHING I'VE GOT!!

IT'S NOT MY STYLE TO OVERTHINK THINGS...

TAK!!!

A SHARP RETURN FROM THE BACKHAND!!

THAT'S GONNA BE HARD TO REACH WITH THE FOREHAND...

HSH!!

PATOK

GO, GORILLA!!

HE GOT ALL THE WAY ACROSS TO SET UP THE FOREHAND!!

!!

SQUEEK

THAT'S AS HARD AS I CAN HIT THE BALL!!

BOK

!!!

OOK !!

?!

FSSH

NO WAY CAN SHE...

TOK

WHOOOM

CATCH IT?! CAN I?!

CAN'T!

GOTTA DODGE...

FAST! FIERCE...

DEATH.

NO.

BASH

WHITE GORILLA: ALABASTER SAGE!!

HUH ?!

DON'T WORRY... THAT WAS JUST MY WHITE GORILLA, OOK.

GORIL- LAAAA!!

WHAAA ?!

POP...

GRIN

IF GORILLA COULDN'T PULL IT OFF, THEN NOBODY CAN.

IF ANYTHING, IT'S IMPRESSIVE HE DID SO WELL.

GAME AND MATCH TO ROBOCO!

BUT... I CAN'T KEEP THIS UP, OOK...

ZSH

SLUMP

WELL, YEAH, BUT...

ARE YOU SERIOUS, BONDO?! YOU SAW WHAT I SAW, RIGHT?!

PERSONALLY, I DON'T THINK THAT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO RETURN, BUT...

?!

YOU THINK SO?

WAIT!! BONDO, YOU CAN'T!!

GUESS I'LL GO NEXT THEN. THAT OKAY?

IS HE NUTS...?! IT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE HE'S JOKING THOUGH...

!!

NEITHER OF THEM WERE FIGHTING FOR REAL YET, RIGHT...?

SHF

BONDO TO SERVE! LOVE ALL!!

FIRST GAME!

I'LL NEVER KNOW UNTIL I TRY, RIGHT?

C'MON.

TMP

BONDO TAIRA

RIGHT-HANDED, SHAKEHAND GRIP
RUBBER INVERTED, BOTH SIDES
PLAY STYLE: DEFENSIVE CHOPPER

I WON'T GO EASY ON YOU JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE MY MASTER!

ICE CREAM IS RIDING ON THIS!

TOOM

SO PRECISE!!

THAT'S NO GOOD, ROBOCO.

NGH!!

TAK

THAT SERVE WAS INCREDIBLE!

W-WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON WITH BONDO?

HERE COMES THE NEXT ONE, OKAY?

I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU WOULDN'T HOLD BACK.

PISTACHIO BONDO.

MORE THAN THAT, HE'S PRES-SURING HER!!

HE'S RETURNING EVERY OOKIN' HIT WITHOUT BREAKING A SWEAT!

THE KID WHO WENT ALL THE WAY TO NATIONALS WHEN HE WAS STILL IN MIDDLE SCHOOL ...?!

REMEMBER THAT PING-PONG PRODIGY, TAMAO?

WHAT THE HECK IS CATE-NACCIO BON?!

DID HE MEAN CATE-NACCIO BON?!

WAIT...

BONDO'S SUCH AN IDIOT, I THINK HE MIGHT HAVE MISREMEM-BERED IT AS PISTACHIO BONDO!!

WAIT, ARE YOU TELLIN' ME CATENACCIO BON WAS BONDO?!

CATENACCIO BON!

?!

WHEN HE WAS LITTLE, THERE WAS ONE OPPONENT HE COULD NEVER BEAT...

FIVE...NO, SEVEN... HOW MANY FEINTS IS THAT?! WAIT...

THAT'S GOTTA BE IT!! LOOK AT HIS SPEED!!

WITH HIS IMPREGNABLE DEFENSE AND BLAZING COUNTER-ATTACKS, THEY GAVE HIM THE NAME CATENACCIO BON!!

HE SHOWED UP ONE DAY AND MADE TAMAO TASTE DEFEAT FOR THE FIRST TIME!

And so they arrived at the match point.

10 11 10

TOK

TOK

TOK

TAK

TAK

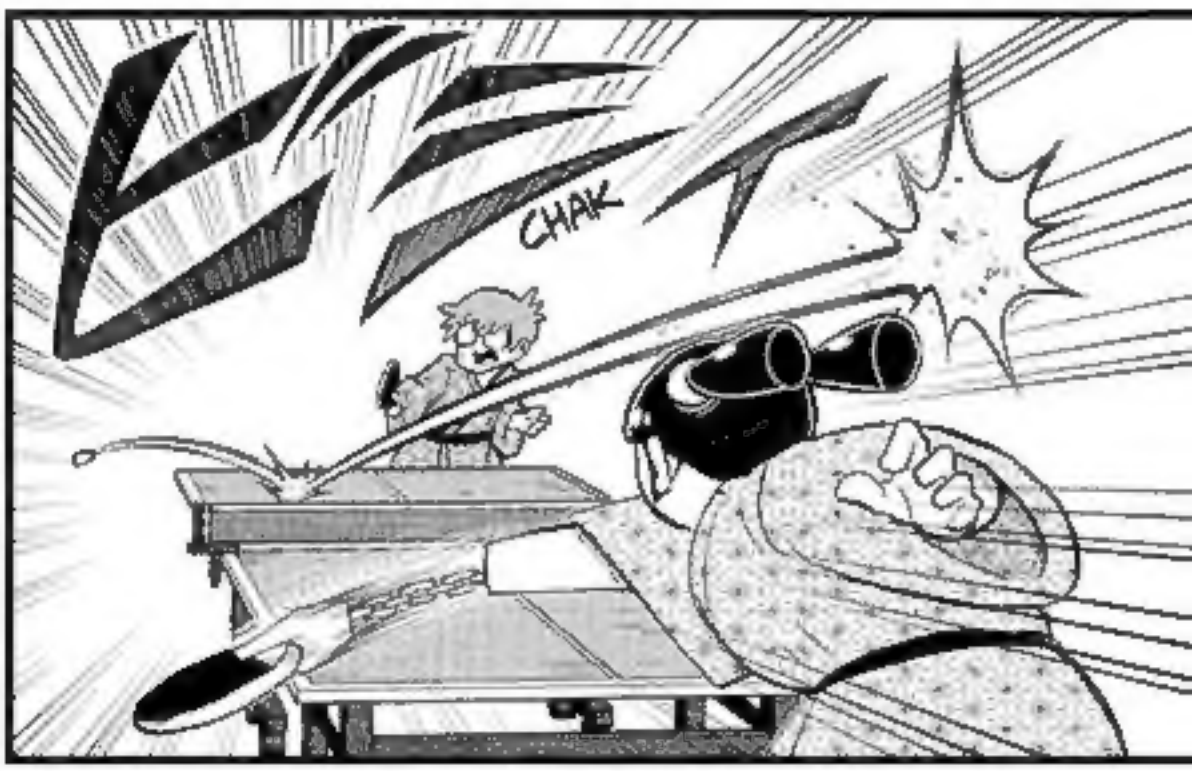
THIS IS AN INCREDIBLE MATCH!!

BABUMP

BABUMP

TAK

WHF


CHAK

LET'S DO THIS AGAIN SOMETIME!!

THAT WAS SO MUCH FUN!

ガタン CLATTER

The next day

ゴトン CLATTER

HEE HEE...

PIOP!

I TOOK A TON OF PHOTOS, SO I'LL SEND THEM TO EVERYBODY!

THAT'S A GOOD PICTURE.

To be continued!